

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Canceled)
2. (Previously Presented) An acoustic receiver, comprising:
means for converting an input audio signal into an acoustic signal;
a housing having a plurality of sides that surround said converting means, one of said sides including an output port for broadcasting said acoustic signal, a second of said sides having an end surface that includes an electrical connector assembly; and
a jacket having at least three sections for directly engaging at least three of said sides, one of said sides being said second of said sides, said three sections being generally flat and lying on respective ones of said sides, at least two mutually adjacent ones of said three sections contacting corresponding ones of said sides.
3. (Previously Presented) The acoustic receiver of claim 2, wherein said jacket is made of stainless steel.
4. (Previously Presented) The acoustic receiver of claim 2, wherein said jacket is made of a soft magnetic material.
5. (Previously Presented) The acoustic receiver of claim 2, wherein said jacket is made of a polymer.
6. (Previously Presented) The acoustic receiver of claim 2, wherein said jacket is primarily made of Kapton.
7. (Previously Presented) The acoustic receiver of claim 2, wherein said jacket is made of epoxy.

8. (Previously Presented) The acoustic receiver of claim 2, wherein said jacket includes silicone.

9-10. (Canceled)

11. (Previously Presented) The acoustic receiver of claim 2, wherein said jacket is adapted to shield said converting means from the effects of electromagnetic interference.

12. (Previously Presented) The acoustic receiver of claim 2, wherein said converting means includes electromagnetic components and a diaphragm.

13. (Previously Presented) The acoustic receiver of claim 2, wherein said jacket is preconfigured to be press-fit directly onto said housing.

14. (Previously Presented) The acoustic receiver of claim 2, wherein said jacket is welded onto said housing.

15. (Previously Presented) The acoustic receiver of claim 2, wherein said jacket is adhered to said housing.

16. (Previously Presented) The acoustic receiver of claim 2, wherein said jacket includes a layer of acoustical dampening material.

17. (Previously Presented) The acoustic receiver of claim 2, wherein said jacket is generally cylindrical in shape.

18. (Previously Presented) The acoustic receiver of claim 2, wherein said jacket has a generally trapezium shape.

19. (Previously Presented) The acoustic receiver of claim 2, wherein said jacket has a generally trapezium-shaped cross section.
20. (Withdrawn) A transducer, comprising:
means for converting between an acoustic signal and an audio signal;
a housing surrounding said converting means;
an electrical connector assembly coupled to an end of said housing; and
a jacket surrounding at least a portion of said housing prior to installation of said transducer into a hearing aid or a telecommunications system at least part of said jacket directly contacting said end of said housing.
21. (Withdrawn) The transducer of claim 20, wherein said transducer is a microphone.
22. (Withdrawn) The transducer of claim 20, wherein said transducer is a receiver.
23. (Canceled)
24. (Withdrawn) The transducer of claim 20, further in combination with a second transducer having a second housing, said jacket surrounding at least a portion of said housing of said transducer and at least a portion of said second housing of said second transducer.
25. (Withdrawn) A transducer, comprising:
means for converting an acoustic signal into an audio signal;
a housing having a plurality of sides that surround said converting means, one of said sides including an input port for receiving said acoustic signal; and
a jacket including a layer of acoustical dampening material, said jacket having at least three sections for directly engaging at least three of said sides, said three sections being generally flat and lying on and contacting, directly via said layer of acoustical dampening material, respective ones of said sides, thereby enhancing the structural integrity of said microphone and

protecting said housing and said means for converting from damage due to handling, said jacket having a thickness and a mass adapted to suppress vibrational feedback.

26. (Withdrawn) An acoustic receiver, comprising:

means for converting an input audio signal into an acoustic signal;

a housing having a plurality of sides that surround said converting means, one of said sides including an output port for broadcasting said acoustic signal;

a jacket having sections for at least partially enfolding said sides, one of said sections and a corresponding side forming a gap therebetween, thereby enhancing the structural integrity of said acoustic receiver and protecting said housing and said converting means from damage due to handling, said jacket having a thickness and a mass adapted to suppress vibrational feedback; and

a printed circuit board located at least partially within said gap, said printed circuit board including electronics for processing said input audio signal.

27. (Withdrawn) The acoustic receiver of claim 26, wherein said jacket is made of a soft magnetic material.

28. (Withdrawn) The acoustic receiver of claim 26, wherein said printed circuit board is a flexible printed circuit board.

29. (Withdrawn) The acoustic receiver of claim 26, wherein said electronics includes an amplifier.

30. (Withdrawn) The acoustic receiver of claim 26, wherein said jacket is generally cylindrical in shape.

31. (Withdrawn) An acoustic receiver, comprising:

means for converting an input audio signal into an acoustic signal;

a housing having six sides that surround said converting means, one of said sides including an output port for broadcasting said acoustic signal; and

a jacket having a rectangular cross-section and sections for closely interfitting with four of said six sides, one of said four of said six sides being said second of said sides, wherein said sections of said jacket directly engage corresponding ones of said four of said six sides.

32. (Withdrawn) The acoustic receiver of claim 31, wherein said jacket is made of a soft magnetic material.

33. (Withdrawn) The acoustic receiver of claim 31, wherein said jacket is welded to said sides.

34. (Withdrawn) The acoustic receiver of claim 31, wherein said jacket is a polymer.

35. (Withdrawn) The acoustic receiver of claim 31, further including a dampening material between said jacket and said housing.

36. (Withdrawn) An acoustic receiver, comprising:
means for converting an input audio signal into an acoustic signal;
a housing having sides that surround said converting means, one of said sides including an output port for broadcasting said acoustic signal; and
an epoxy jacket encapsulating said housing so as to contact at least two mutually adjacent ones of said sides thereof.

37. (Withdrawn) The acoustic receiver of claim 36, further including a printed circuit board located within said epoxy jacket, said printed circuit board including electronics for processing said input audio signal.

38. (Withdrawn) The acoustic receiver of claim 36, wherein said epoxy jacket has a generally uniform thickness.

39. (Withdrawn) The acoustic receiver of claim 36, wherein said epoxy jacket has a variable thickness.
40. (Withdrawn) The acoustic receiver of claim 36, wherein said epoxy jacket is generally cylindrical in shape.
41. (Withdrawn) The acoustic receiver of claim 36, wherein said epoxy jacket has a generally D-shaped cross section.
42. (Withdrawn) An acoustic receiver, comprising:
means for converting an input audio signal into an acoustic signal;
a housing having a plurality of sides that surround said converting means, one of said sides including an output port for broadcasting said acoustic signal;
a jacket spaced away from said housing to form a gap; and
an acoustic dampening material filling said gap and contacting at least two mutually adjacent sides of said jacket and corresponding sides of said housing.
43. (Withdrawn) The acoustic receiver of claim 42, wherein said dampening material is silicone.
44. (Withdrawn) The acoustic receiver of claim 42, wherein said dampening material is a resilient material.
45. (Withdrawn) The acoustic receiver of claim 42, wherein said jacket is generally cylindrical in shape.
46. (Withdrawn) The acoustic receiver of claim 42, wherein said jacket has a generally D-shaped cross section.

47. (Withdrawn) The acoustic receiver of claim 42, further including a printed circuit board located within said dampening material, said printed circuit board including electronics for processing said input audio signal.

48-53. (Canceled)

54. (Withdrawn) A transducer, comprising:
means for converting between an acoustic signal and an audio signal;
a housing surrounding said converting means, said housing having two ends and at least two sides; and
a jacket surrounding at least a portion of said housing, at least two sections of said jacket being permanently affixed to said sides.

55. (Withdrawn) The transducer of claim 54, wherein said least two sections are permanently affixed to said sides by spot-welding.

56-57. (Canceled)

58. (Withdrawn) The transducer of claim 54, wherein said jacket has a thickness of between about 0.05 mm and 0.3 mm.

59. (Withdrawn) The transducer of claim 54, wherein said jacket is press-fit onto said housing.

60. (Withdrawn) The transducer of claim 54, wherein said jacket contacts at least one of said ends of said housing directly or via said layer of acoustical dampening material.

61. (Withdrawn) The transducer of claim 54, wherein said jacket contacts said majority of said surface of at least said two mutually adjacent sides of said housing via said layer of

acoustical dampening material, said acoustical dampening material being composed of a material including epoxy.

62. (Withdrawn) The transducer of claim 20, wherein said jacket includes a thin layer of acoustical dampening material along at least part of the surface of said jacket opposing said housing.

63. (Withdrawn) The transducer of claim 54, wherein said least two sections are permanently affixed to said sides by adhesive.

64. (New) The acoustic receiver of claim 2, wherein said jacket has a generally rectangular cross section.

65. (New) The acoustic receiver of claim 16, wherein said acoustical dampening material is composed of a material including epoxy.